

gphom ATT

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To: "Acton Finance Committee (E-mail)" <fincom@acton-ma.gov>
Cc: "Coleman and Mullen" <runfar@speakeasy.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2004 2:47 PM
Attach: CPC 04 proposals - 2-05-04 interim spreadsheet.xls
Subject: CPC Info for tonight

Date: February 6, 2004

From: John Ryder

Re: Preliminary vote of the CPC of their recommendations to Town Meeting.

At their meeting of Feb 5, 2004 the CPC held a preliminary vote on the projects that they are recommending to Town Meeting in April. They are seeking input, comments and support from the BOS and the FC before they take their final vote. Should you have any questions on these proposals, please let me know what they are if possible so that the answers can be prepared.

- All of the recommended projects have received support, if only qualified in a very lawyerly way, by Town Council as being CPA eligible.
- The Leary field proposal has been withdrawn after Town Council informed the CPC that it was not eligible for CPA funding in his opinion.
- The CPC has not yet discussed in full how these projects will be categorized against the 10% funding requirements of the CPA. The FC can anticipate that portions of the reserve fund will be earmarked for open space and possibly Historic Preservation. If there are no changes to the current allocations the reserve fund will have a balance of \$275,771 +/-.
- The nature and amount of administrative costs that the CPC will recommend at Town Meeting Fund from CPA revenue is still an open question. The \$38,000 you see in the spreadsheet is a place holder.

Approved Project Overviews:

1. By the Town of Acton - Assabet River Rail Trail - The CPC voted to recommend that Town Meeting fund \$170,000 from the CPC for this project. This money will complete the Town's funding to this project. The balance of the funding for this project will come from matching Federal funds. The leverage here is approximately \$9 for every \$1.00 we put in. And we also will have downside protection from increased cost.
2. By Acton Community Housing Corporation - 214 Central/28 Willow - This \$25,000 will pay for a consultant's study of this property to design the placement of 4 housing units on this site. The property is a parcel of land that the town took for tax title and had to clean up environmentally. The study will resemble the study which the ACHC commissioned on the Towne building. ACHC hopes to see this property developed as qualified affordable units.
3. By Acton Community Housing - Community Housing Fund - This \$25,000 is to provide seed money to set up discretionary fund of ACHC. ACHC has indicated that they would like to move part or all of their "New View Fund" balance of approximately \$95,000. This money will be available to the ACHC to use with the consent of the BOS and the CPC.
4. By Acton Historical Commission - Cultural Resource List - This is an up to appropriation of \$20,000 to review and document all of the properties in town which were built before 1950.

2/10/2004

5. By the Town of Acton - Davis Monument Restoration - This appropriation of up to \$50,000 will be used by the Town to repoint and restore the Davis Monument in Acton Center.
6. By the Acton Housing Authority - Family Housing Initiative - This appropriation of up to \$200,000 will be used to match a \$300,000 donation which AHA has received from a developer. These funds will be used to buy a 3 bedroom and a 2 bedroom condominium for use as qualified affordable units.
7. By Acton Memorial Library - Flag Preservation - This appropriation of up to \$5,600, will be used to restore and preserve a flag that belonged to Acton's Grand Army of the Republic Post.
8. By the Historic District Commission - Historic District Signs - This appropriation of up to \$8,285 will be used to purchase and install signs delineating the various Historic Districts in Town. The exact number and location of these signs is still a subject of concern at the CPC. As a result this appropriation may change slightly between now and Town Meeting.
9. By the Town of Acton - Morrison Farm Master Plan - An appropriation of up to \$59,800 for a master plan. This proposal has been expanded by the CPC (and I believe the Town officially) to include all of the land between East Acton Green at the Concord Rd and 2A intersection and the soccer field. It became clear during the funding process for the Morrison property and East Acton Village Green's request for funding, that a master plan should review how to best integrate and use this entire "block" of Town-owned property. It is important for the FC to know that next year it is anticipated that the Town will be bringing forward a proposal for the Bruce Freedman Rail Trail, a portion of which abuts Ice House Pond as well as the Morrison property, and runs directly through the proposed East Acton Village Green. This master plan proposal has generated some controversy by some citizens. The BOS will be appointing a committee to oversee the master planning process and that committee will be charged by the BOS to hold a number of public hearings before the master plan is finalized and submitted.
10. By T.J. O'Grady Committee - T.J. O'Grady Skate Park - The CPC has voted an appropriation of \$67,000 to fund the first year's construction request by the proponents of this project. There is likely to be resistance by some members of the CPC to any future appropriation for this project. This resistance has two focal points: 1. Boxborough did not pass the CPA and is not funding this project and 2. Town Meeting had appropriated significant funds to this project already.
11. By the CPC - Reimbursement for Administrative Costs - The CPC is still discussing whether and at what level the Town should be reimbursed for expenses associated with administering the CPC. The CPC would welcome input from the FC on this debate.

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